

CHURCH SERVICES IN APRIL 2023
in the Benefice of Launditch and Upper Nar

1st SUNDAY 2nd April ~ Palm Sunday (Red)

Matthew 21:1-11 | Psalm 118:1-2 – 19-end [or 118:19-24]

Ecumenical Palm Sunday Procession

10:15am Meet outside the Methodist Chapel, Litcham

Procession through Litcham to All Saint's Church, ending at the village green. Followed by refreshments in the Methodist Chapel.

Miriam Fife and Stephen Lynn

6:30pm Evensong at Mileham with the Churchwardens

Maundy Thursday 6th April (White)

Eucharist with Stripping of the Altar

7:00pm Weasenham St Peter with Miriam Fife and John Blore

Good Friday : 7th April

Tenebrae: 7:00pm at Tittleshall with Kevin Blogg

Holy Saturday 8th April ~ Easter Eve

Lighting the Easter Fire: 6:00pm at Great Dunham

During this service sausages and marshmallows will be toasted on the fire for all to share, the Easter Candle will be lit and the congregation is invited to stay afterwards for the Easter Vigil.

2nd SUNDAY 9th April ~ Easter Day (Gold or White)

Acts 10: 34-43 | Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24 | John 20: 1-18 [or Matthew 28: 1-10]

9:00am	Little Dunham	Holy Communion	Miriam Fife
9:00am	Gt Fransham	Holy Communion	Andrea Woods
10:00am	Beeston	Easter Communion (Family service)	Miriam Fife
10:15am	Litcham	Holy Communion	John Blore
11:00am	Mileham	Holy Communion	Hilary DeLyon
11:15am	Gressenhall	Easter Day Worship	Julia Houston

Sorry, no online service this morning

Friday : 14th April

8:00pm Online Compline with John Blore

3rd SUNDAY 16th April ~ Second Sunday of Easter (White)

Exodus 14:10-end, 15: 20,21 | Acts 2: 14a, 22-32 | Psalm 16, | John 20: 19-end

9:00am	East Lexham	Holy Communion BCP	Hilary De Lyon
9:00am	Stanfield	Holy Communion, Iona	Andrea Woods
10:00am	Online Service	Morning Prayer	Jan Sexton
10:00am	Beeston	Celtic Morning Prayer	Sarah Carter
10:15am	Litcham	Matins	Churchwardens
10:00am	Great Dunham	Family Service	Miriam Fife

11:00am Mileham

Morning prayer

Lay Led

Friday 21st April

8:00pm Online Compline with Hilary De Lyon

4th Sunday 23rd April ~ Third Sunday of Easter (White)

Zephaniah 3:14-end | Acts 2:14a, 36-41

Psalm 116:1-3,10-end or 116:1-7 | Luke 24:13-35

9:00am	Little Dunham	Morning Prayer	Churchwardens
9:00am	West Lexham	Holy Communion Iona	John Blore
10:00am	Great Dunham	Family Holy Communion	Andrea Woods
10:00am	Online Service	Morning Worship	John Blore
10:30am	Tittleshall	Holy Communion Iona	Hilary De Lyon
11:00am	Mileham	Morning Prayer	Churchwardens
11:15am	Gressenhall	Holy Communion Iona	Julia Houston
4:00pm	Litcham	Evening Prayer	Churchwardens

Friday 28th April

8:00pm Online Compline with Miriam Fife

5th Sunday : 30th April ~ Fourth Sunday of Easter (White)

Genesis 7 | Acts 2: 42-end | Psalm 23 | John 10: 1-10

Benefice Service: 10:00am at East Lexham with Miriam Fife and Andrea Woods

6:30pm Evensong at Mileham with the Churchwardens

Friday 5th May

8:00pm Online Compline with Andrea Woods

1st Sunday : 7th May Fifth Sunday of Easter (White)

Genesis 8: 1-19/ Acts 7: 55-end / Psalm 31:1-5 / John 14: 1-14

Benefice Service: – 10:00am – Rougham

A Service to Celebrate the Coronation of King Charles III

Followed by Bring and Share lunch

6:30pm Evensong at Mileham with the Churchwardens

*Links for the Online Zoom services will be sent out in the weekly emails.

If you do not get these then please contact Miriam, (details below).

A full list of all the services for the Upper Nar and Launditch group of parishes can be viewed or downloaded from the Litcham website, please visit www.litcham.org and click on 'Services' in the Worship dropdown menu.

All enquiries should be directed to the Benefice Administrator:

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Revd Miriam Fife, Rector: miriam.fife@btinternet.com

YOUR RECTOR WRITES...

April is a month of promise: the promise of Spring and fairer weather, and this year, right at the beginning, the promise offered to all by the Easter message. We begin with a celebration on Palm Sunday, when at our ecumenical service held jointly with our Methodist friends, we re-enact the moment when Jesus entered the holy city of Jerusalem, riding in triumphantly to cries of Hosanna! This will involve a procession around Litcham and is a joyful spectacle to which all are invited. Following Palm Sunday, we enter the most sombre of weeks in our church year, 'Holy Week', when each day we recall the events in the days leading up to the betrayal, arrest, and crucifixion of Jesus, who could at any moment have stopped it all (well, he was God, after all!), but chose to let it all happen, just as it had been predicted in the ancient Scriptures. He did that in order to fulfil the best promise of all; he conquered death, rising from death to life after three days (not a ghost... he even ate fish on the beach with his friends afterwards!), before rising to be with his Father in heaven... so that we don't have to be afraid of death when it comes to us and our loved ones, knowing that we have a place in heaven where life is everlasting and we will see all those we love again. The pain we feel when someone we love dies can feel too much to bear, and is heart-wrenching and awful. But knowing that they have gone to a better place, where there is no more pain, no more tears, and only goodness and light, and that we will see them there one day, can bring us a deep sense of peace and comfort that nothing else can give. This is what God has promised for all of us (Yes! Even YOU!). If you want to find out more, do join us at any of our church services or get in touch. The Easter Bunny will spread quite a lot of joy (who doesn't look forward to a chocolate egg?), but the gift of joy and hope that is ours for the taking is everlasting, and we can't wait to share it with you.

With every blessing, Reverend Miriam

EASTER HIGHLIGHTS

Palm Sunday Procession: meet on the green by the Methodist Chapel in Litcham at 10:00am.

Maundy Thursday: we recall the night Jesus was betrayed and arrested at a powerful service which includes 'Stripping the Altar': Weasenham St Peter at 7:00pm.

Good Friday: Tenebrae Service will be held at Tittleshall at 7:00pm on Good Friday, 7th April. At this dramatic service we recall the time that Jesus was crucified and died.

Easter Saturday is 'the saddest day', until the moment we light the Easter Fire and the Easter candles, signifying the moment when Jesus rose from the dead, bringing Light back into the world. And since the fire is lit, we share sausages and marshmallows toasted on the fire after the service: 6:00pm at Great Dunham.

Easter Day: services held throughout the benefice, with family service and egg hunt at Beeston church at 10:00am. We look forward to welcoming you.

METHODIST SERVICES

Tittleshall 9:30am

April 2nd Fellowship Service
9th Pippa Cook
16th Avril Temple
23rd Fellowship Service
30th BIG SUNDAY

Litcham 10:30am (unless otherwise stated)

April 2nd ECUMENICAL PALM SUNDAY PROCESSION at **10:15am**
9th Tony Hey

16th Fellowship Service
23rd Deacon Jen Woodfin - Infant Baptism
30th BIG SUNDAYMETHODIST NOTES

April is the month we look forward to warmer weather. We also look forward to making full use of the extra hour or so of daylight. It is a wonderful time of year whether in the garden or the countryside, there are so many different shades of green setting off the spring flowers and we see resurrection all around.

Our main focus this month is Easter. Easter is the most significant event in the Christian calendar but its message of new beginnings and hope are universal and can be appreciated by everyone. We extend a warm welcome to all those who wish to join us for any of our Eastertide events listed below.

Palm Sunday: 2nd April. We meet at Litcham Chapel at 10:15am for an Ecumenical Processional service around the village reflecting on Jesus' triumphant entry into Jerusalem. This year, being the first Sunday in the month, we especially welcome the Upper Nar and Launditch group of parishes.

Good Friday: 7th April. This day we reflect upon the crucifixion of Jesus and our Walk of Witness will see us carrying the cross from Litcham Chapel to Tittleshall Chapel. Meet at Litcham Chapel at 10:00am for the walk, or Tittleshall Chapel at 10:15am for a quiet time of meditation and prayer until those who walk arrive. We then have a hymn and prayer together before sharing a time of fellowship and refreshment.

Easter Sunday: 9th April. Tony Hey will be leading morning worship at Litcham Chapel at 10:30am and Pippa Cook at Tittleshall Chapel at 9:30am. Both services will give us the opportunity to share our Easter joy in the glory of the Risen Lord. 'ALLELUIA!'

We have an infant baptism at Litcham on St George's day, 23rd April. Sybil, daughter of Rachel and Andy Carter and granddaughter of Marion and John Moulton is going to be baptised during morning worship. We know this will be a very special and joyous occasion and we give the whole family our blessing.

Unfortunately, the concert planned in December, to raise funds for 'Action for Children' had to be cancelled because of the icy weather. A spring concert will now take place on Friday 28th April at 7:00pm for the same cause. More details elsewhere in the magazine. Please try and support this event if you are able. All are welcome.

We finish with a very well known verse of scripture "For God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not die but have eternal life." John 3:16

With every blessing this Easter Veronica and Albert Little

THE SUNFLOWER SINGERS
(Conductor; Sue Lane)
SPRING CONCERT at LITCHAM METHODIST CHURCH
Friday April 28th at 7:00pm
Free admission
Donations for Action for Children